

Stated Meeting, October 17.

Present, twenty members.

Dr. PATTERSON, President, in the Chair.

Mr. Isaac Hazlehurst, a recently elected member of the Society, was presented and took his seat.

Letters were read:--

From the Royal Academy of Sciences at Berlin, dated 15th August, 1850, and 15th August, 1851, announcing donations to the Society.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Abhandlungen der Königl. Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin. Jahrgang, 1848 und 1849. 2 vols. 4to. Berlin, 1850, 1851.—*From the Royal Academy of Sciences at Berlin.*

Monatsbericht der Königl. Preuss. Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin. July, 1849, to June, 1851. Berlin. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Preface. Voyage au Ouaday, par le Cheykh Mohammed Ibn-Omar el Taunsi. Traduit de l'Arabe par le Dr. Perron, &c. &c. Preface par M. Jomard. Paris, 1851. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History. 1 sheet. Vol. IV. pp. 65 to 80. Boston. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

Journal of the Franklin Institute. Third Series. Vol. XXII. No. 4. October, 1851. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From the Institute.*

The African Repository. Vol. XXVII. No. 10. October, 1851. Washington. 8vo.—*From the American Colonization Society.*

Electro-Magnetic Telegraph Case. Circuit Court of the United States: Eastern District of Pennsylvania: In Equity. Benjamin B. French et al. versus Henry J. Rogers et al. 2 vols. 4to. Philadelphia, September, 1851.—*From George Harding, Esq.*

Essay on the Classification of Nemertes and Planariæ: preceded by some general considerations on the Primary Divisions of the Animal Kingdom. By Charles Girard. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

The Plough, the Loom and the Anvil. Vol. IV. No. 4. October, 1851. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From F. G. Skinner, Editor.*

Judge Kane made a verbal communication relative to the American Expedition in search of Sir John Franklin.

The American party, after passing the "north water" of Baffin's bay, passed in a violent storm to Lancaster sound, and thence to Wellington Inlet—a point nearly in the same latitude in which Sir James Ross thought he had found a magnetic pole. The Americans determined to be frozen into the pack ice, so as to be able to take advantage of its breaking up in the spring, to prosecute their expedition northward. The result was, that a few days after being frozen in, the ice broke loose from the shores and floated northward with the vessels. North of lat. $75^{\circ} 30'$ they saw the line of the western coast of Greenland, trending N. and W. a line of high cliffs, extending beyond the sight. On the left, the shores of Cornwallis' island were seen. They landed at different points, and found renewed traces of the march of parties of Sir John Franklin's men. While in this latitude, the south wind, which had hitherto carried them northward, ceased, and they were slowly drifted with the ice, for nearly nine months, down Wellington channel, and were at last released from the ice in a latitude easily reached by navigators at almost all seasons; proving a southerly current running from N. lat. $75^{\circ} 30'$ into the Atlantic, at the rate of at least four miles per day. Judge K. concluded by giving reasons for believing that Sir John Franklin had reached this open sea, south of the west coast of Greenland, and that at least some of his party may still survive.

The Society then proceeded to ballot for candidates for membership.

The Committee of Finance reported that the accounts of the late Treasurer had been examined and found correct: and that the newly elected Treasurer had given a bond, with sureties, for the faithful performance of the duties of his office.

All other business having been transacted, the ballot boxes were opened by the presiding officer, and the following named gentlemen declared to be duly elected members of the Society:—

HON. GEORGE SHARSWOOD, of Philadelphia.

JOHN LECONTE, of New York.

EDWARD HALLOWELL, M.D. of Philadelphia.

ELISHA K. KANE, M.D. of Philadelphia.

JAMES DUNDAS, of Philadelphia.

ISAAC R. DAVIS, of Philadelphia.